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Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

Budget performance for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 and proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

Appropriation for 2015/16	$67,157,000
Expenditure for 2015/16	$67,098,800
Underexpenditure for 2015/16	$58,200
Appropriation for 2016/17	$82,857,800
Projected expenditure 2016/17[a]	$82,644,700
Projected underexpenditure for 2016/17[a]	$213,100
Proposal submitted by the Secretary-General for 2017/18	$88,338,500
Recommendation of the Advisory Committee for 2017/18	$85,986,000

[a] Estimate as at 28 February 2017.

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I. Introduction

1. **The recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in paragraphs 39, 42, 43, 47, 50, 58, 59 and 62 below would entail a reduction of $2,352,500 to the proposals of the Secretary-General contained in his report on the budget for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy (UNLB) for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 (A/71/828).** The Committee has made recommendations and observations on specific issues, where appropriate, in the paragraphs below.

2. During its consideration of the financing of UNLB, the Advisory Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General, who provided additional information and clarification, concluding with written responses dated 26 April 2017. The documents reviewed and those used for background by the Committee are listed at the end of the present report. The Committee's detailed comments and recommendations on the findings of the Board of Auditors concerning United Nations peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 and on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations can be found in its related reports (A/71/845 and A/71/836, respectively). The Board's observations and recommendations pertaining specifically to UNLB are discussed in paragraphs 12 and 13 below.

II. Budget performance for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016

3. By its resolution 69/309, the General Assembly appropriated an amount of $67,157,000 gross ($61,059,300 net) for the maintenance of UNLB for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016. The full amount has been assessed on Member States. Expenditures for the period totalled $67,098,800 gross ($60,875,200 net), resulting in an unencumbered balance of $58,200 gross ($184,100 net), or 0.1 per cent of the appropriation. An analysis of variances is provided in section IV of the performance report (A/71/689).

4. The underexpenditure is attributable mainly to reduced requirements for civilian personnel, including $1,582,600 (or 7.9 per cent) for international staff as a result of a lower actual average post adjustment multiplier of 33.9 per cent compared with the budgeted multiplier of 46 per cent and to the higher average vacancy rate of 12.8 per cent compared with a budgeted rate of 9 per cent.

5. The lower requirements were offset in part by increased requirements of: (a) $483,100 (or 2.6 per cent) relating to national staff, which is attributable primarily to higher actual grade levels for national General Service staff; (b) $1,369,400 (or 73.9 per cent), attributable to the lower actual average vacancy rates for general temporary assistance positions, including 12.5 per cent for international staff and 21.1 per cent for national staff, as compared with the approved average vacancy rates of 60 per cent and 50 per cent, respectively; (c) $120,800 (or 30.2 per cent) for the services of a consultant in the aviation safety programme; and (d) $581,400 (or 7.1 per cent) under facilities and infrastructure, attributable mainly to the installation of a solar farm and an additional power supply unit.

6. The comments of the Advisory Committee on the information in the performance report on individual objects of expenditure can be found, where relevant, in the discussion of the proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 in section IV below.

Inconsistent recording of expenditures and unbudgeted activities

7. The Advisory Committee notes from the performance report, under operational costs, that a number of expenditures were recorded under classes other than those budgeted, which contributed to some of the variances reported. For example, the variance under ground transportation ($173,200 or 17.1 per cent), communications ($3,968,100, or 54.5 per cent), information technology ($3,385,800, or 49.1 per cent), medical ($267,800, or 87.8 per cent) and other supplies, services and equipment ($77,500, or 5.3 per cent) are due to requirements being budgeted and expenditures being recorded under different object classes.

8. The Advisory Committee was provided with additional information relating to the 2015/16 budget performance report, projected expenditures in 2016/17 and projected requirements in the 2017/18 budget proposals. The Committee notes that a number of activities were unbudgeted, including: (a) salaries for other personnel in the amount of $294,400 for 2016/17; (b) rental of premises in the amounts of $4,000 and $9,300 in 2015/16 and 2016/17, respectively; and (c) aircrew subsistence allowance in the amount of $500 for 2016/17.

9. The Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that the payment of salaries for other personnel related to 17 general temporary assistance positions for Umoja master data management that, as authorized by the Controller, were temporarily charged against UNLB accounts and were to be reversed before the end of the current budget period, as the costs would be apportioned among service recipients. The Committee was also informed, upon enquiry, that UNLB did not pay rent for the premises provided under memorandums of understanding with the Italian and Spanish Governments. The expenditure recorded against the rental of premises in 2015/16 and that proposed for 2017/18 relates to UNLB participation, in a supporting capacity, in the technology and medical fair that is held regularly in Valencia, Spain, which includes a provision for the rental of a tent.

10. With respect to the expenditures for aircrew subsistence allowance and rations, the Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that the expenditure of $500 related to services rendered for the maintenance of a foam-packing machine, the provision for which was made under maintenance services/facilities and infrastructure, and that the expenditure would be applied to the appropriate budget line. **The Committee is concerned that the inconsistent recording of expenditures reflects a lack of clarity and inconsistency in budgeting and accounting practices, rendering it difficult to properly assess budget implementation and make comparisons over time. The Committee is of the view that underexpenditures in some budget classes do not automatically justify the use of available funds for unbudgeted purposes and that unbudgeted activities should be appropriately budgeted for in the proposed budget for the period.** Further observations and comments on this issue are contained in the Committee's report on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations (A/71/836).

Strategic deployment stocks

11. The Secretary-General indicates in section V of the performance report (A/71/689) that the annual review of strategic deployment stocks had the objective of ensuring that the configuration was operationally effective and suited for supporting the Department of Field Support, inter alia, in maximizing the utilization of strategic deployment stocks in the context of the modularization pillar of the global field support strategy. The report indicates that the asset value of the strategic deployment stocks increased from $34,564,000 as at 30 June 2015 to $42,120,000 as at 30 June 2016, an increase of 21.9 per cent. The overall increase was attributable mainly to the increase of $5,607,400 in the value of light passenger

vehicles (from $1,136,500 as at 30 June 2015 to $6,743,900 as at 30 June 2016) and the increase of $2,386,300 in the value of information technology equipment (from $1,069,200 as at 30 June 2015 to $3,455,500 as at 30 June 2016). The replenishment value of strategic deployment stocks issued to peacekeeping operations amounted to $22,737,500, while those issued to special political and peacebuilding missions and other entities totalled $684,800 in 2015/16. The Advisory Committee comments further on the management of strategic deployment stocks in paragraphs 28 and 29 below.

Observations and recommendations of the Board of Auditors

12. During its consideration of the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of UNLB, the Advisory Committee had before it the report of the Board of Auditors on the accounts of the United Nations peacekeeping operations for the financial period ended 30 June 2016 (A/71/5 (Vol. II), chap. II). In its report, the Board observed that, in terms of strategic deployment stocks, 4.48 per cent of assets were fully depreciated but still in use (ibid., table II.5). The Committee takes note of the Board's observations that the useful lives of fully depreciated strategic deployment stock assets still in use should be reviewed and makes further observations in its related report (A/71/845). The Committee also makes further observations and recommendations regarding strategic deployment stocks in paragraphs 28 and 29 below.

13. The Board of Auditors reviewed the roles of the Department of Field Support, the Global Service Centre and the Procurement Division of the Department of Management at Headquarters regarding the acquisition process for missions (ibid., paras 192-209). In that regard, the Board recommended the establishment of procedures to support and monitor missions' preparation of acquisition plans, the evaluation and analysis of mission requirements and the development of a global acquisition plan and a procurement strategy. **The Committee notes the Board's observation that collaboration among departments is crucial for a successful global procurement strategy and trusts that the recommendations of the Board will be implemented expeditiously.**

III. Information on performance for the current period

14. The Advisory Committee was informed that as at 28 February 2017, expenditure for the 2016/17 period amounted to $54,760,000 gross against an apportionment of $82,857,800 gross. For the entire financial period, current and projected expenditures will amount to $82,644,700, leaving a projected unencumbered balance of $213,100.

15. The Advisory Committee was provided with the following table concerning the incumbency of UNLB posts for the period from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017:

Post incumbency for the period from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 (as at 28 February 2017)

Category	*Approved*	*Planned*	*Encumbered*	*Vacancy rate (percentage)*
UNLB and the United Nations Information and Communications Technology Base in Valencia, excluding tenant units				
Posts				
International staff	87	79	70	19.5
National staff	286	272	274	4.2
General temporary assistance				
International staff	11	8	10	9.1
National staff	17	13	14	17.6
Tenant units				
Posts				
International staff	40	21	33	17.5
National staff	3	3	3	–
Total, UNLB and United Nations Information and Communications Technology Base in Valencia, including tenant units				
Posts				
International staff	127	100	103	18.9
National staff	289	275	277	4.2
General temporary assistance				
International staff	11	8	10	9.1
National staff	17	13	14	17.6

IV. Proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018

A. Objective and planned results

16. The Secretary-General indicates that as part of the global field support strategy, the Logistics Base has been reprofiled as the Global Service Centre. The Centre operates as a unified entity, comprising the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi and the United Nations facility in Valencia, to provide global geospatial, information and telecommunications technologies and logistics and supply chain operational management and to enable the provision of support services throughout the life cycle of field missions, from start-up planning and preparation to liquidation. The Centre also continues to host a number of tenant units, including the Standing Police Capacity, the Justice and Corrections Standing Capacity and the Strategic Air Operations Centre, in the context of supply chain management. The mandate of the Centre is to provide rapid, effective, efficient and responsible services and solutions to peacekeeping operations and will continue to develop its core functions in the areas of logistics, engineering, the environment and geospatial, information and telecommunications technologies in the context of the supply chain management strategy (A/71/828, paras. 1-6). The report also outlines the continuing enhancement of regional mission cooperation by UNLB and the approach of UNLB to strengthening partnerships, cooperation with funds and programmes and support to missions (ibid., paras. 45-50) The Advisory Committee addresses further the nomenclature of the Logistics Base and Global Service Centre and provides

observations in relation to the designation of the facility in Valencia in paragraphs 32 and 33 below.

17. The Secretary-General indicates that the planning assumptions with respect to specific activities for 2017/18 include: (a) the restructuring of the Logistics Service, which is proposed to be renamed the Supply Chain Service, with the aim of aligning the organizational structures and post functions of the Service with those of the supply chain management structures of the Logistics Support Division of the Department of Field Support and the peacekeeping missions; (b) the improvement of the quality and timeliness of services to be provided by the two restructured core services proposed, namely, the Supply Chain Service and the Service for Geospatial, Information and Telecommunications Technologies; (c) the strengthening of the environmental engineering capability to provide guidance and support to field missions; (d) the review of the strategic deployment stocks in accordance with recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services; and (e) the implementation of the delayed replacement of ageing information and communications technology infrastructure. The Advisory Committee also notes the proposal of the Secretary-General to restructure the Service for Geospatial, Information and Telecommunications Technologies and makes further observations in this regard in paragraphs 44-47 below.

Comprehensive study regarding the deployment of the Global Service Centre in two locations

18. In its resolution 69/309 on the financing of UNLB, the General Assembly recalled paragraph 5 of its resolution 67/288 and reiterated its request that the Secretary-General present a comprehensive study regarding the deployment of the Global Service Centre in two locations. In response to that request, the Secretary-General provided the results of the study. The Advisory Committee noted in its report on the comprehensive study that it did not address a number of issues and therefore considered the study to be incomplete. The Committee emphasized the need to provide the Assembly with transparent and comprehensive information on the implications of deploying the Service for Geospatial, Information and Telecommunications Technologies in two locations, including with respect to financial, budgetary and human resources management matters (see also resolution 70/288). Accordingly, the Committee recommended that the Assembly request the Secretary-General to further develop his analysis to cover all relevant issues and to present a revised comprehensive study on the deployment of the Service in two locations in his next budget submission (A/70/742/Add.9, paras. 16 and 80).

19. The Secretary-General indicated that while, for redundancy and risk mitigation, the Service for Geospatial, Information and Telecommunications Technologies is deployed in two locations, it provides services as a unified, singular service model. While recognizing the validity of the deployment of this model in two locations, the Advisory Committee noted that those arrangements presented certain challenges and requested a revised comprehensive study as part of the next UNLB budget submission. The General Assembly, in its resolution 70/288, endorsed this request as well as the requests for two business cases with additional information in relation to the Geospatial Information Systems Section and the Remote Mission Support Section (see A/70/742/Add.9, paras. 45 and 49).

20. In the current report of the Secretary-General on the UNLB budget it is indicated that the revised comprehensive study and the two business cases have been produced and that a summary has been provided in that report (A/71/828, para. 21). The Secretary-General indicates that the Remote Mission Support Section was established on 1 July 2015 with the objective of centrally supporting and implementing information and communications technology support services in

peacekeeping missions. Support was initially provided to the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali and the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic, and in 2017/18 the Centre will continue to roll out the remote support model to additional peacekeeping missions (ibid., para. 22). The Secretary-General further indicated that major geospatial functions and infrastructure were centralized and consolidated at the Centre in the Geospatial Information Systems Section. In view of this centralization and consolidation, the mandate of the Section was expanded to provide continuous operational support to all peacekeeping missions and offices within the Centre's scope of service, especially those missions with no or limited geospatial capacity (ibid., para. 23).

21. **The Advisory Committee notes that the summary-level information on the revised study and the two business cases as provided in the report do not appear to fully address the Committee's recommendation for a revised study with more comprehensive information on the implications of deploying the Service in two locations (see A/70/742/Add.9, para. 16) or regarding the centralization and remote mission support efforts of the Service and the impact of the Service on mandate delivery (ibid., paras. 45, 48 and 49), as endorsed by the General Assembly (resolution 70/288, para. 9). The Committee reiterates the need for this information, particularly in relation to the Service for Geospatial, Information and Telecommunications Technologies and its client missions, including the resource requirements at the client missions, the status of outputs, the utilization of such outputs and the impact of the Service on mandate delivery.** The Committee's recommendations on the proposals for post conversions in the Service are contained in paragraphs 44-47 below.

Restructuring of the Logistics Service

22. The Secretary-General proposes restructuring the Logistics Service, to be renamed the Supply Chain Service, so as to demonstrate complementarity with the structures, functions and responsibilities of the Logistics Support Division of the Department of Field Support, as well as with the requirements of peacekeeping missions. The Secretary-General indicates that the organizational sections and units, as well as posts and functions of the Service, will be realigned with the end-to-end processes of the supply chain management concept, which covers planning, sourcing, delivery and return processes under the two pillars of the planning and sourcing section and of the delivery and return section. The Service will continue to provide logistics support to peacekeeping operations throughout the missions' life cycle, including pre-mandate planning, start-up, surge, sustainment, downsizing and liquidation (A/71/828, paras. 9-13 and figure in para. 62). The composition of the proposed Supply Chain Service is indicated in the organization chart (ibid., annex II).

23. **The Advisory Committee notes that the proposed restructuring aims at aligning the UNLB Supply Chain Service with the supply chain structures of the Logistics Support Division of the Department of Field Support and those of peacekeeping missions, and as such recommends its approval (see also paras. 44-47 below).**

Restructuring of the Office of the Director and of the Base Support Service

24. The Secretary-General proposes the restructuring of both the Office of the Director and the Base Support Service. The proposal would entail the renaming of the Base Support Service the Central Service and reassignment of three offices that currently report to the Director of UNLB to the Central Service, namely, the Finance and Budget Section (redeployment of 13 posts), the Property Management Unit (redeployment of 7 posts) and the Security Office (redeployment of 11 posts) (ibid.,

para. 27). The Secretary-General indicates that the proposed changes will enable the Director to focus on more strategic issues concerning overall management of the Centre and the complex portfolio of services provided to the external clients (ibid., para. 54). Furthermore, the Field Contracts Management Unit, previously under the Office of the Director, will be transferred to the new Supply Chain Service (ibid., para. 56), and one post (Finance and Budget Assistant) is proposed for abolishment in the Finance and Budget Section owing to savings related to the implementation of Umoja and administrative streamlining (ibid., para. 55). The composition of the proposed Central Service is indicated in the organization chart (ibid., annex II).

Strategic Air Operations Centre

25. The Secretary-General proposes to present the Strategic Air Operations Centre, comprising 10 posts, as a tenant unit of the Global Service Centre with a reporting line to the Logistics Support Division of the Department of Field Support. The Centre will continue to plan safe and economical air operations and improve operational efficiency and planning for strategic flights; make recommendations to reduce the duplication of effort to enhance the utilization of air assets; and identify potential cost savings associated with the operations of the current fleet (ibid., paras. 30 and 33). Upon enquiring as to the centralized control and monitoring of all strategic air movements, as well as the cost-benefit analysis and the reductions in costs resulting from aircraft selection, as indicated in the performance report for 2015/16 (A/71/689, para. 15 (j)), the Advisory Committee was informed that, in 2015/16, the Centre coordinated and monitored 57 strategic air support flights (utilizing long-term charter aircraft and standby contracts) and coordinated 157 flights outside of the mission area for a total of 214 strategic air operations. This required the Centre to perform cost-benefit analyses in order to select the most cost-effective option/aircraft in terms of suitability, proximity and cost. The Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that the efficiencies achieved by the strategic air operations were in excess of $700,000. The Committee was also informed that efficiencies were found during the process to select a solution in support of the client after a cost-benefit analysis was conducted that examined such aspects as contract cost, aircraft capacity, aircraft operating base, type of operation, number of passengers, quantity of cargo, use of a commercial option versus use of United Nations-managed aircraft and the optimum route and flight level.

26. **The Advisory Committee notes that the amount of $700,000, described as an efficiency gain and attributed to greater cost effectiveness, is not an efficiency gain per se given the methodology used. The Committee trusts that greater efforts will be made to distinguish efficiencies from cost reductions. Furthermore, the Committee trusts that the inclusion of the Strategic Air Operations Centre with a direct reporting line to the Logistics Support Division of the Department of Field Support will improve the performance and enhance the effectiveness of the operations of the Centre (A/70/742/Add.9, para. 29). The Committee reiterates its views concerning the management and oversight of the Centre in terms of enhanced performance and makes further observations and comments on the issue in its current report on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations (A/71/836).**

27. In this connection, the Advisory Committee recalls that in its previous report on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations it stressed the need to clarify the respective roles and responsibilities of different entities involved in air operations management for field missions (A/70/742), including clarifying the roles of the Strategic Air Operations Centre, the Transportation and Movements Integrated Control Centre, which is part of the Regional Service Centre at Entebbe, Uganda, and the Air Transport Section in the Logistics Support Division of the

Department of Field Support at Headquarters. The Committee's further observations and comments on this issue are contained in its current report on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations (A/71/836).

Strategic deployment stocks

28. The General Assembly, in its resolution 70/288, entrusted the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) with the conduct of a review and evaluation of the strategic deployment stocks (A/71/798). The OIOS report indicates that the delivery of strategic deployment stocks within the stipulated period of time was rare and that compared with the original concept document (A/56/870), the process did not function as envisaged. OIOS recommendations include updating the strategic deployment stocks concept and policies; reviewing the current composition of the stocks to ensure alignment with needs; ensuring that systems contracts remain current; implementing annual write-off and replenishment of stocks; and reporting to legislative bodies for appropriate action the full details of the net transfer of strategic deployment stocks valued at $16.7 million to the United Nations reserve and UNLB inventory (A/71/798, paras. 87-95). The Secretary-General indicates that in this regard, UNLB has begun drafting a revised concept of operations for strategic deployment stocks (A/71/828, paras. 14-16).

29. **The Advisory Committee recalls its concern regarding the management of strategic deployment stocks and its recommendation regarding enforcement of the policy on the rotation of stocks (A/71/742/Add.9, paras. 37 and 38). The Committee notes that the report of OIOS addresses a number of issues regarding the utilization, rotation and management of strategic deployment stocks and encourages the Secretariat to expeditiously implement the recommendations. The Committee looks forward to receiving information on the progress made in the next budget submission of UNLB as well as the revised concept of operations for strategic deployment stocks.**

Services provided to other entities and cost recovery

30. The Secretary-General indicates that in 2017/18, the Global Service Centre will host support personnel of other entities in Brindisi and Valencia. The cost recovery framework will enable recovery of the costs associated with the use of the facilities by non-UNLB support personnel providing support to non-Department of Field Support clients. Costs are prorated for such support personnel related to facility services such as cleaning, gardening, security and maintenance. Costs for facility services are recovered for personnel of the International Computing Centre working on non-Department of Field Support projects (A/71/828, para. 38). The report also indicates that 419 full-time support personnel from other entities are estimated to occupy premises at the Centre in 2017/18, for whom cost recovery is due only for those 116 staff providing services to non-Department of Field Support entities (ibid., para. 40 and table 3). The Committee acknowledges the information provided in tables 2 and 3 of the report, as well as in table 4 in terms of cost recovery estimates Nevertheless, the Committee recalls its recommendation that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to include, in future budget submissions regarding UNLB, information on all of the personnel occupying the facilities in Brindisi and Valencia, as well as details on administrative and cost-recovery arrangements, rental and maintenance costs, income received and any other relevant information on the utilization of United Nations premises (A/69/839/Add.9, para. 55). **The Committee is of the view that, while part of the recommendation has been addressed in the report of the Secretary-General, greater clarity is necessary in terms of the required level of information.**

31. The Secretary-General indicates that the Global Service Centre also plans to maintain service-level agreements with 12 entities under which the Centre provides connectivity services, data storage, telecommunications, data centre hosting services, application hosting, event monitoring, campus services, geospatial information systems, information and communications technology security and operational resilience services on a cost-recovery basis using the Umoja service delivery functionality (A/71/828, para. 42). The breakdown of the entities receiving support is provided, as is a cost-recovery analysis (ibid., tables 4 and 5). The Advisory Committee recalls that there is a need to provide the General Assembly with a better understanding of the services provided to other Secretariat and non-Secretariat entities, as well as a full picture of the resources made available to UNLB. The Committee recommended that transparent and comprehensive information on expenditures incurred and income received for all services provided to other Secretariat and non-Secretariat entities be included, as a routine matter, in future budget submissions. Any extrabudgetary posts funded through cost-recovery income should also be reflected in the organization chart, with appropriate annotations (A/70/742/Add.9, para. 68). **While the Committee acknowledges the progress made in the presentation of the information in the current budget proposal, it recommends that the information relating to the cost-recovery estimates be presented with greater clarity and detail in future budget proposals.**

Designation of the facility at Valencia

32. In its previous report, the Advisory Committee considered the proposal of the Secretary-General in relation to the designation of the facility at Valencia (see A/70/779, para. 42). In this regard, the Committee considered the designation to be confusing in that it appeared to imply the existence of two Global Service Centres. Moreover, the proposed title did not fulfil the requirement that the designation of the Valencia facility be consistent with its use for ICT purposes. In the current report, the Secretary-General proposes that the facility located in Valencia be designated as the "United Nations Information and Communications Technology Base", as the name is consistent with the information and communications technology mandate of the facility, which includes hosting, connectivity and monitoring. It is also proposed that the Brindisi site be known as the "Global Service Centre in Brindisi, Italy", and that both sites form the "Global Service Centre" as the singular and integrated geospatial, information and telecommunications technology and logistics service delivery and support capacity (A/71/828, paras. 18 and 19).

33. Upon its request for further clarification as to the designation of the two sites, the Advisory Committee was informed that the sites would be named the "United Nations Information and Communications Technology Base in Valencia" and the "Global Service Centre in Brindisi". **The Committee recommends that the General Assembly approve the definitive nomenclature of "United Nations Information and Communications Technology Facility, Valencia" and "Global Service Centre, Brindisi".**

B. Resource requirements

34. The proposed budget for UNLB for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 (A/71/828) amounts to $88,338,500 gross ($82,263,000 net), representing an increase of $5,480,700 in gross terms, or 6.6 per cent, compared with the apportionment of $82,857,800 for 2016/17. The budget provides for the deployment of 139 international staff and 307 national staff as well as 2 positions funded under general temporary assistance.

35. As regards the resource breakdown for the two locations of UNLB (Brindisi and Valencia), the Advisory Committee was provided, upon enquiry, with the following table, which indicates that the 2017/18 resource requirements for Brindisi and Valencia are $73.5 million and $14.9 million, respectively:

(Millions of United States dollars)

	2012/13 actual	*2013/14 actual*	*2014/15 actual*	*2015/16 actual*	*2016/17 approved*	*2017/18 projected*
United Nations Logistics Base	68.6	68.5	66.5	67.1	82.9	88.3
Brindisi	58.4	58.2	56.2	59.4	71.1	73.5
Valencia	10.3	10.3	10.3	7.7	11.7	14.9

36. The Advisory Committee was also provided, upon enquiry, with the following table, which indicates that the proposed 2017/18 staffing requirements for Brindisi and Valencia include 417 and 31 staff posts, respectively.

Overview of human resources for peacekeeping operations, 2012/13 to 2017/18

	2012/13 actual	*2013/14 actual*	*2014/15 actual*	*2015/16 actual*	*2016/17 approved*	*2017/18 projected[a]*
Number of missions						
Peacekeeping missions and United Nations Support Office in Somalia[b]	15	14	15	15	15	14
Number of approved personnel						
Military and police personnel authorized by the Security Council	127 829	135 452	149 264	143 083	139 546	139 045
Civilian staff in missions and United Nations Support Office in Somalia	23 694	22 808	22 542	21 134	19 964	18 569
Regional Service Centre in Entebbe, Uganda	–	–	–	–	421	439
Global Service Centre	423	420	424	452	444	448
Brindisi	398	395	399	421	413	417
Valencia	25	25	25	31	31	31
Support account	1 429	1 435	1 458	1 461	1 469	1 466
Total	**153 375**	**160 115**	**173 688**	**166 130**	**161 844**	**159 967**

[a] Reflecting preliminary estimates for 2017/18 pending the finalization of some budget proposals.
[b] Excluding the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan and the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization, which are funded from the biennial programme budget.

1. Civilian personnel

Category	*Approved 2016/17*	*Proposed 2017/18*	*Variance*
International staff	127	139	12
National staff[a]	289	307	18
Temporary positions[b]	28	2	(26)

[a] Includes National Professional Officers and national General Service staff.
[b] Funded under general temporary assistance.

37. The estimated requirements for civilian personnel for 2017/18 amount to $39,329,600, representing a decrease of $85,200, or 0.2 per cent, compared with the apportionment of $39,414,800 for 2016/17. The overall decrease reflects lower requirements for general temporary assistance ($2,388,300, or 90.4 per cent), owing to the proposed conversion of 26 general temporary assistance positions to posts (9 international and 17 national), as indicated in the paragraph below.

38. The decrease is offset by increased requirements for: (a) international staff ($1,196,000, or 6.5 per cent), owing primarily to: (i) the proposed conversion of 9 general temporary assistance positions to posts (2 P-4, 1 P-3 and 6 Field Service) in the Geospatial Information Systems Section and the Remote Mission Support Section; and (ii) the proposed establishment of 3 international posts, comprising 1 P-4 post in the Standing Justice and Corrections Standing Capacity and 2 P-3 posts in the Environmental Technical Support Unit; and (b) increased requirements for national staff in the amount of $1,107,100, or 6.0 per cent, attributable mainly to the proposed conversion of 17 general temporary assistance positions in the General Service category to posts in the Geospatial Information Systems Section and the Remote Mission Support Section.

39. The cost estimates for civilian staff for 2017/18 reflect vacancy factors of 16 per cent for international staff, 3 per cent for national General Service staff, 9 per cent for international staff on temporary positions and 12 per cent for national staff on temporary positions. The report of the Secretary-General indicates that the actual rate for international staff on temporary positions is 9.1 per cent; the projected rate for international staff of the tenant units is 17.0 per cent and zero for national staff of the tenant units, as full deployment is expected. **The Advisory Committee reiterates its view that budgeted vacancy rates should be based, as much as possible, on actual vacancy rates. In cases where the proposed budgeted rates differ from the actual rates at the time of budget preparation, clear justification for the rates applied should be provided in the related budget documents (A/70/742, para. 45). In view of the foregoing, the Committee recommends the application of a vacancy rate of 3.5 per cent to the estimated requirements for national General Service staff for the 2017/18 period. Any related operational costs should be adjusted as appropriate.**

40. **The Advisory Committee asked, but did not receive, a breakdown of the detailed staffing in both the Brindisi and Valencia locations. The Committee points out that it can make recommendations regarding the specific placement of staff only when the required information relating to the specific posts, functional titles, functions and locations is provided for its review, as was done in previous periods. In this regard, the Committee expects that at the time of its consideration of the budget proposal for 2017/18, the Secretary-General will provide to the General Assembly a breakdown of the proposed posts separately by location for both Brindisi and Valencia rather than as a consolidation of proposed posts, as currently indicated in table 15 of the proposed budget, in order for the Assembly to be in a position to approve the posts. The Committee also expects that a breakdown by location will be provided in future budget proposals.**

Establishment

Establishment of 4 posts (2 P-3 and 2 General Service) in the Environmental Technical Support Unit

41. The Secretary-General proposes the establishment of an Environmental Technical Support Unit with seven posts (1 P-4, 3 P-3 and 3 national General Service). Three of the posts will be redeployed within existing resources and four

are proposed for establishment: two P-3 Environmental Engineer posts and two national General Service Environmental Assistant posts. The Secretary-General indicates that the mandate of the Unit is to ensure the full implementation of good environmental management practices across the field missions, bring together environmental expertise and develop and manage complex projects by liaising with other Department of Field Support offices and United Nations entities, under the strategic leadership of the Environmental Section in the Office of the Under-Secretary-General of the Department. The Unit's activities will be structured to align with the five thematic areas of waste management, renewable energies, water and wastewater, wider environmental impact and environmental management system and will focus on providing operational support to field missions on environmental matters and ensure that policies are put into action by developing simple and tested practicable environmental engineering solutions (A/71/828, paras. 72-75). Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was provided with information relating to the Unit vis-à-vis the various environmental initiatives for field missions and notes the overall increase in resources dedicated to environmental matters, including the establishment of the Environmental Section in the Department of Field Support, the presence of Environmental Affairs Officers in individual field missions and the ongoing Rapid Environment and Climate Technical Assistance Facility (REACT) project in UNLB, financed by United Nations peacekeeping operations and aimed at supporting missions in reducing their environmental footprint. In this regard, the Committee also discusses the issue of scalability further in paragraphs 44-47 and 64-66 below.

42. The Advisory Committee considers that a number of factors are at play with respect to the establishment of the Environmental Technical Support Unit and its workload, the ongoing embedding of REACT in the Global Service Centre and the work of the Environmental Section of the Department of Field Support. **The Committee is of the view that greater clarity is required regarding the nature of the proposed posts and the workload vis-à-vis the work of and the linkages with the Environmental Section of the Department of Field Support and the potential duplication of functions, where support to missions on environmental issues already exists in terms of developing mission-specific environmental impact methodology. The Committee also considers that, given the existing resources to be deployed to the Unit, the need for the additional posts proposed for establishment as well as the additional support that the Environmental Technical Support Unit will provide to missions requires greater clarification. The Committee therefore recommends the approval of one P-3 Environmental Engineer position and one national General Service Environmental Assistant position as general temporary assistance positions within the Environmental Technical Support Unit. The Committee recommends against the establishment of the second P-3 Environmental Engineer post and the second national General Service Environmental Assistant post. Any related non-post resources should be adjusted accordingly.**

Establishment of a P-4 post of Rule of Law Officer in the Justice and Corrections Standing Capacity

43. The Secretary-General proposes the establishment of a P-4 post of Rule of Law Officer in the Justice and Corrections Standing Capacity. The report indicates that rapidly deployable assistance continues to outpace the availability of the current capacity and that the P-4 Rule of Law Officer will enable the Justice and Corrections Standing Capacity to support field operations in a more effective manner, including in the areas of planning and project and programme implementation (A/71/828, paras. 32 and 91). Upon enquiry, the Committee was informed that since 2013, Justice and Corrections Standing Capacity members have

been deployed to missions for approximately 70 per cent of their actual work time, which is higher than the 55 per cent target deployment rate set out in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations/Department of Field Support policy on the functions and organization of the United Nations Justice and Corrections Standing Capacity of December 2013. In addition, approximately 85 per cent of the requests for deployments and other forms of Justice and Corrections Standing Capacity assistance since 2013 have been fulfilled. The remaining requests represent the capacity gap to be filled by the proposed establishment of a post at the P-4 level. **Given the current level of staffing in the Justice and Corrections Standing Capacity, the Advisory Committee is not convinced of the continuing need. Therefore the Committee recommends the approval of the P-4 post of Rule of Law Officer in the Justice and Corrections Standing Capacity as a general temporary assistance position.**

Conversions

44. Within the Service for Geospatial, Information and Telecommunications Technologies, the Secretary-General proposes the conversion of six general temporary assistance positions (1 Field Service and 5 national General Service) to posts in the Geospatial Information Systems Section (ibid., para. 86 and table 16) and proposes the conversion of 20 general temporary assistance positions (2 P-4, 1 P-3, 5 Field Service and 12 national General Service) to posts in the Remote Mission Support Section of the Service (A/71/828, para. 87 and table 16). The Secretary-General indicates that the mandate of the Geospatial Information Systems Section was expanded to provide continuous operational support to all peacekeeping missions and offices within the Global Service Centre's scope of service, especially those missions with no or limited geospatial capacities, thereby necessitating the conversion of the six positions (ibid., para. 86), and that the 20 posts are required in the Remote Mission Support Section to provide a range of remote support services to missions (ibid., para. 87).

45. The report also indicates that during 2017/18, the continuation of the remote mission support model will allow for a flexible and rapid remote mission support capacity to be sustained through the proposal of converting 20 general temporary assistance positions to posts, which will form the core of the remote mission support capacity and will be supplemented by contractual services capacity to provide the necessary scalability and flexibility as demand from missions increases or decreases (ibid., para. 22). The report further indicates that the Geospatial Information Systems Section forms the core of the geospatial information services at the Global Service Centre and will be supplemented, as required, by contractual services and contractors as the workload fluctuates and expands. The core staffing provides ongoing minimum support capacity while ensuring the retention of critical knowledge and skills in key areas (ibid., para. 23).

46. The Advisory Committee notes that the reference to scalability in the report appears to be principally in terms of converting general temporary assistance positions to posts which, by its very essence, appears to align with a singular concept of scalability that does not necessarily provide for long-term flexibility of staffing to meet both increasing and decreasing needs of remote mission support capacity. Upon enquiry, the Committee was informed that the need to ensure the continuation of financial and non-financial benefits as well as manage the high turnover of staff on general temporary assistance positions is a suboptimal method of delivering centralized services, which depends on the establishment and retention of core knowledge and skills. The Committee was also informed that to ensure the continued success of the geospatial information systems model and of the remote

mission support model and their ongoing realization of benefits, it is considered important that core capacities now be converted from temporary positions to posts.

47. **The Advisory Committee considers that insufficient justification has been provided in terms of the functions of the proposed posts, the outputs to be delivered, workload factors and the actual turnover of staff in support of the request for the conversion of 26 positions in the Geospatial Information Systems Section and in the Remote Mission Support Section. The Committee recalls that in its resolution 69/307, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to develop scalability models to inform the resource requirements for the support account for peacekeeping operations, UNLB and the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe. The Committee notes the continued absence of a comprehensive scalability model for UNLB. As such, the Committee considers that any proposals for conversions to posts should be considered following the receipt of the comprehensive staffing review by the Assembly in the seventy-second session. The Committee therefore recommends against the approval of the Secretary-General's proposal for the conversion of 26 positions to posts in the Geospatial Information Systems Section and in the Remote Mission Support Section (see also paras. 64-66 below).**

Abolishments

48. The Secretary-General proposes the abolishment of one national General Service post in the Finance and Budget Section (ibid., para. 55). **The Advisory Committee recommends the approval of the Secretary-General's proposal for the abolishment of one General Service post in the Finance and Budget Section.**

Reassignments and redeployments

Reassignment of three national General Service posts from the Supply Chain Management Section to the Administration and Programme Management Unit

49. The Secretary-General proposes redeploying a national General Service post and reassigning three national General Service posts from the Supply Chain Management Section (which will be dissolved) to the Administration and Programme Management Unit, which currently provides functions such as budgetary planning and control, requisitioning, global logistics training, performance management and coordination with the oversight and audit bodies. It is envisioned that the Administration and Programme Management Unit in 2017/18 will also provide support for the establishment of global systems contracts, including for strategic deployment stocks for missions in the start-up phase and for urgent and emergency events. The four additional posts will facilitate and coordinate the additional workload anticipated from this new role for centralized requisitioning for all global systems contracts and contracts that support the strategic deployment stocks for missions (ibid., para. 65). **The Advisory Committee recommends the approval of the Secretary-General's proposal.**

Tenant units: reassignment of a P-4 Detention Police Officer to serve as a Police Training Officer in the Standing Police Capacity

50. The Secretary-General proposes changing the functions of a P-4 Detention Police Officer to serve as Police Training Officer through the reassignment of the post within the Standing Police Capacity. The report indicates that in paragraph 13 of its resolution 2185 (2014), the Security Council requested the Secretariat to continue refining the composition of the United Nations Standing Police Capacity to ensure that it included skill sets to meet contemporary demands, including through enabling partnerships with Member States and regional organizations. The report

also indicates that, as a need has been identified to enhance the area of training, the Police Training Officer will assist in creating a training architecture for the strategic guidance framework, together with all the related training curricula and lesson plans (ibid., para. 89). **The Advisory Committee is of the view that given the different nature and requirements of the two posts, insufficient justification has been provided regarding the proposed reassignment. The Committee therefore recommends against the approval of the Secretary-General's proposal for the reassignment of the P-4 Detention Police Officer to serve as a Police Training Officer and recommends the abolishment of the P-4 post. Any related operational costs should be adjusted accordingly.**

51. The Advisory Committee recalls that the definitions pertaining to changes in staffing are set out in annex I to each budget report, wherein it is indicated that a post reassignment is applied when: (a) an approved post that was intended to cover a certain function is proposed to implement other priority mandated activities unrelated to the original function; and (b) that while a post reassignment may involve a change of location or office, it does not change the category or level of the position. **In cases where new functions due to changes in mandates or operational circumstances emerge, the Committee stresses that any related proposals for new positions, redeployments or reassignments should be fully justified in terms of responsibilities and workload.** The Committee's observations and comments on this issue are contained in its report on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations (A/71/836).

52. **Subject to its comments and recommendations in paragraphs 39, 42, 43, 47 and 50 above, the Advisory Committee recommends approval of the Secretary-General's proposal for civilian personnel for 2017/18.**

2. Operational costs

(United States dollars)

Apportioned 2016/17	*Proposed 2017/18*	*Variance*
43 443 000	49 008 900	5 565 900

53. The proposed operational costs for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 amount to $49,008,900, representing an increase of $5,565,900, or 12.8 per cent, compared with the apportionment for 2016/17.

54. The increased requirements are attributable mainly to the following:

(a) Information technology: an increase of $8,579,700, or 39.2 per cent, due to: (i) the higher recurrent costs ($7,067,400) associated with the maintenance of the Umoja system for all peacekeeping operations, the costs of which have been consolidated and included in the UNLB budget since the 2015/16 period, comprising three major elements: peacekeeping-specific information technology services for which no provision was included in the UNLB budget in 2016/17 ($2,951,500); global information technology services for which no provision was included in the UNLB budget for 2016/17 ($2,125,400); and higher costs of licenses owing to a larger global user base of the Umoja system ($1,990,500); and (ii) replacement of information technology equipment, resulting in an increase of $1,533,400 compared with the 2016/17 period;

(b) Other supplies, services and equipment: an increase of $249,300, or 19.9 per cent, is attributable mainly to the higher cost of freight related to the acquisition of vehicles, engineering equipment, communications and information

technology equipment, as well as a warehouse fee for medical components previously budgeted under the medical category;

(c) Ground transportation: an increase of $240,200, or 44 per cent, is attributable to the replacement of five special-purpose vehicles that have exceeded their life expectancy.

55. The overall increase in operational costs is partially offset by the following reduced requirements:

(a) Communications: a decrease of $2,810,200, or 26.5 per cent, is attributable mainly to the upgrade of the Umoja communications infrastructure in 2016/17, offset in part by the replacement of non-Umoja communications equipment, resulting in an increase of $1,284,900 compared with 2016/17;

(b) Facilities and infrastructure: a decrease of $592,600, or 7.8 per cent, compared with the appropriation for 2016/17 is attributable mainly to lower requirements for the maintenance service as well as reduced electricity costs owing to the solar farm, offset in part by the acquisition of engineering equipment, including a three-dimensional design laser scanner and a global positioning system land surveying tool;

(c) Medical: a decrease of $100,500, or 63.7 per cent, attributable to the provision for medical warehouse maintenance fees being budgeted under other supplies, services and equipment.

Official travel

56. The Secretary-General indicates in his report that the resource requirements for official travel amount to $981,900. The Advisory Committee was provided with additional information relating to the travel requirements of UNLB and noted that of the $756,000 for non-training-related travel, a substantial proportion of the proposed travel is outside the mission area ($622,000). The Committee was provided with a listing of the operation's travel requirements for 2017/18 and notes that some trips do not appear to be well justified or could be combined. For example, an amount of $19,516 is proposed for four visits to Kuwait and Iraq, while other trips are proposed an average of twice during the period to a number of field missions and Headquarters for consultation purposes. Upon enquiry, the Committee was informed that with respect to travel to Kuwait and Iraq, the Global Service Centre was undertaking the travel on the basis of the mandate of the Regional Aviation Safety Office as established through a Department of Field Support/Logistics Support Division directive of January 2015, which is currently under revision. Until the revision is promulgated, the Regional Aviation Safety Office of the Centre performs its activities in accordance with an agreement endorsed by the Director of the Logistics Support Division and the Centre on 7 February 2017. Regarding the reimbursement of those costs, the Committee was informed that no cost reimbursement was envisaged under the current support arrangement. **The Committee stresses that a directive cannot be referred to as a mandate and looks forward to receiving the results of the review.**

57. With respect to advance booking of travel requirements, the Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that following the implementation of Umoja, the early booking compliance rate had dropped to 29 per cent but that it was now improving. The Committee was also informed that for the first quarter of 2017, the early booking compliance rate of UNLB was 38 per cent and that the objective was to increase the compliance rate to 50 per cent for 2017/18. **The Committee looks forward to seeing compliance with early booking of travel.**

58. The Advisory Committee noted a number of discrepancies in the information provided, including a probable overestimation of airfare rates, multiple trips to New York, multiple participants for the same scheduled workshop, a lack of consideration for savings arising from advance booking of predictable travel requirements and insufficient consideration given to the possibility of using videoconferencing. **The Committee therefore recommends a reduction of 20 per cent in the amount of $124,400 to be applied to the proposed resource requirements for all the travel of staff outside of the mission area. The Committee therefore recommends approval of the remaining proposed travel requirements, amounting to $497,600.**

Fuel consumption

59. The Advisory Committee was provided with information relating to the estimates of fuel costs for 2017/18 in the amount of $118,580, compared with the approved cost of $68,074 in 2016/17. Upon enquiry, the Committee was informed that the increase in the fuel requirement in 2017/18 was attributable to the inclusion of the heating fuel requirement under the petrol, oil and lubricants budget line, whereas the provision for this requirement in 2016/17 was made under utilities. In contrast to some peacekeeping missions, which produce electricity from fuel and generators in remote locations, the Global Service Centre draws its electricity from the national grids. Furthermore, the Committee was informed that, given the correlation between the increased solar energy capacity and electricity charges (from the national grid), UNLB was proposing a reduction of $300,000 under the electricity requirements owing to the utilization of its own solar energy capacities. **The Committee is of the view that, given the proposed increased use of solar energy capacity in the 2017/18 period, the fuel consumption of UNLB should be retained at the level approved for the 2016/17 period in terms of the volume of fuel required at the unit cost applicable to the 2017/18 period. The Committee therefore recommends approval of the remaining fuel requirements, amounting to $59,500.**

Information technology infrastructure

60. The Secretary-General indicates that communications requirements amount to $7,776,200, a decrease of 26.5 per cent compared with the apportionment for 2016/17 and that information technology requirements amount to $30,489,400, representing an increase of $8,579,700, or 39.2 per cent, compared with the apportionment for 2016/17. The report indicates that information technology requirements include replacing ageing communications and information technology infrastructure based on a critical asset risk assessment made in order to reduce the inventory past life expectancy to 53 per cent for communications equipment and to 54 per cent for information technology equipment by 30 June 2018 (ibid., para. 24).

61. The Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that the replacement and service requirements for information technology amounting to $30,489,400 across both the Brindisi and Valencia locations would be approximately 50 per cent in each location. Furthermore, the Committee was informed that the assets to be replaced were critical assets or assets introducing a high level of exposure to the services provided by the Global Service Centre; the critical assets for both Valencia and Brindisi were identified in the comprehensive risk assessment and had exceeded their useful life expectancy; the initial purchase of core equipment in Valencia had occurred eight years ago, in 2009; and as the Centre operates an active-active, load-balanced technology centre distributed between the two locations, the equipment configuration for the centralized infrastructure is functionally identical. The Committee was also provided with additional information relating to increased

requirements in the amount of $1,284,900 for the replacement of communications equipment in 2017/18. The Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that the ageing equipment presented risks such as equipment failure and compromised security of information assets and that the need to replace equipment to address those risks was based on the information and communications technology asset risk analysis, which was also provided to the Committee.

62. The Advisory Committee was provided with additional information relating to the expenditure on information technology and communications estimated for 2016/17 and notes the anticipated overexpenditure under information technology for the purchase of communications equipment. **The Committee is not fully convinced of the increased information technology requirements in the amount of $8,579,700, and therefore recommends that a reduction of 20 per cent in the amount of $1,715,900 be applied to the additional proposed resource requirements for information technology. The Committee therefore recommends approval of the remaining information technology requirements, amounting to $6,863,800.**

63. **Subject to its comments and recommendations in paragraphs 58, 59 and 62 above, the Advisory Committee recommends approval of the resources requested for operational costs for 2017/18.**

V. Other issues

Scalability strategy

64. The Advisory Committee recalls that in paragraph 63 of its resolution 69/307, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to develop scalability models to inform the resource requirements for the support account for peacekeeping operations, UNLB and the Regional Service Centre and to report thereon at the second part of its resumed seventieth session. In paragraph 66 of its resolution 70/286, the Assembly noted the need for further progress in developing the scalability model for the Regional Service Centre and reiterated its request that the Secretary-General develop such models for UNLB and the support account for peacekeeping operations, requesting that he report thereon in the context of his next overview report. The Committee notes, however, that in the case of UNLB, the development of a model depended upon the outcome of a related civilian staffing review exercise, which has not yet been completed (A/71/809, annex I). With respect to scalability, the Committee also recalls paragraph 10 of Assembly resolution 70/287, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to present, at the second part of its resumed seventy-second session, a comprehensive review of the support account.

65. In terms of the UNLB scalability model, the report indicates that the Global Service Centre will continue to comprise a nucleus of core Centre staff supplemented by contractual support services to allow for the scalability of the Centre's support capacity in accordance with the demands of field missions (A/71/828, para. 22). The objective of sustaining a flexible and rapid remote mission support capacity is indicated in the report in terms of post conversions, which are proposed to form the core of remote mission support capacity and to be supplemented by contractual service capacity to provide the necessary scalability and flexibility as demand from missions increases or decreases. The Committee's view on this approach to scalability in terms of post conversion is indicated in paragraphs 44-47 above.

66. **The Advisory Committee is concerned about the absence of details on the progress of the development of a scalability model for UNLB and the support account for peacekeeping operations requested by the General Assembly and trusts that all related reviews and analysis will be finalized prior to the seventy-second session of the Assembly. Related details and any resource implications should be included in the budget proposals for the 2018/19 period.** The Committee comments further on this matter in its report on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations (A/71/836).

VI. Conclusion

67. The actions to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of UNLB for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 are indicated in paragraph 57 of the performance report (A/71/689). **The Advisory Committee recommends that the unencumbered balance of $58,200, as well as the income and adjustments in the amount of $480,500, be credited to Member States.**

68. The actions to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of UNLB for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 are indicated in paragraph 118 of the proposed budget (A/71/828). **Taking into account its recommendations in paragraphs 39, 42, 43, 47, 50, 58, 59 and 62 above, the Advisory Committee recommends that the estimated budget requirement be reduced by $2,352,500, from $88,338,500 to $85,986,000. Accordingly, the Committee recommends that the Assembly:**

(a) Approve of the amount of $85,986,000 for the maintenance of UNLB for the 12-month period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018;

(b) Prorate the amount in subparagraph (a) above among the individual active peacekeeping operation budgets to meet the financing requirements of UNLB for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018.

Documentation

- Report of the Secretary-General on the overview of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations: budget performance for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 and budget for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 (A/71/809)
- Report of the Secretary-General on the budget performance of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 (A/71/689)
- Report of the Secretary-General on the budget for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 (A/71/828)
- Financial report and audited financial statements for the 12-month period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 and report of the Board of Auditors on United Nations peacekeeping operations (A/71/5 (Vol. II))
- Report of the Secretary-General on the overview of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations: budget performance for the period from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015 and budget for the period from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 (A/70/749)

- Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the budget performance for the period from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015 and proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy (A/70/742/Add.9)
- Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the budget performance for the period from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015, financing for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 and proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 of the support account for peacekeeping operations (A/70/837)
- General Assembly resolutions 69/307 and 70/286 on cross-cutting issues
- General Assembly resolution 70/287 on the support account for peacekeeping operations
- General Assembly resolution 69/309, on the financing of the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy

Annex

Summary of proposed staffing changes in the United Nations Logistics Base in Brindisi, Italy, for the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018

	Within the Global Service Centre		*New to the Global Service Centre*		
Office Section Unit	*No.*	*Level*	*No.*	*Level*	*Description*
Office of the Director					
Immediate Office of the Director	-2	P-4			Redeployed to the Central Service
	-1	P-3			
	-3	NGS			
Security Office	-1	P-3			Redeployed to the Central Service
	-10	NGS			
Finance and Budget Section	-1	P-4			Redeployed to the Central Service
	-1	P-3			
	-2	FS			
	-9	NGS			
	-1	NGS			Abolished
Field Contracts Management Unit	-1	P-4			Redeployed to the proposed Supply Chain Service (currently Logistics Service)
	-1	P-3			
	-1	NGS			
Subtotal	**-34**				
Central Service (currently Base Support Service)					
Office of the Chief	+2	P-4			Redeployed from the Office of the Director
	+1	P-3			
	+3	NGS			
Security Office	+1	P-3			Redeployed from the Office of the Director
	+10	NGS			
Finance and Budget Section	+1	P-4			Redeployed from the Office of the Director
	+1	P-3			
	+2	FS			
	+9	NGS			
Campus Support Section	-5	NGS			Redeployed to the Service for Geospatial, Information and Telecommunications Technologies
Property Management Unit	+1	P-3			Redeployed from the Logistics Service
	+6	NGS			
Subtotal	**+32**				
Supply Chain Service (currently Logistics Service)					
Office of the Chief	-1	P-5			Redeployed to the proposed Delivery and Return Section
	-1	P-4			
	-2	FS			
	-3	NGS			

Office Section Unit	Within the Global Service Centre No.	Level	New to the Global Service Centre No.	Level	Description
	+3	NGS			Reassigned from the Supply Chain Management Section
	+1	NGS			Redeployed from the Supply Chain Management Section
	-1	NGS			Redeployed to the proposed Planning and Sourcing Support Section
Subtotal	**-4**				
Asset and Resource Management Section	-3	P-3			Redeployed to the proposed Planning Support Unit
	-8	NGS			
	-1	P-4			Redeployed to the proposed Delivery and Return Section
	-1	P-3			
	-3	NGS			
	-1	P-3			Redeployed to the Central Service
	-6	NGS			
Subtotal	**-23**				
Supply Chain Management Section	-1	P-4			Redeployed to the Central Warehousing Unit
	-2	P-3			Redeployed to the Central Warehousing Unit
	-50	NGS			Redeployed to the Central Warehousing Unit
	-1	P-4			Redeployed to the Central Maintenance and Repair Unit
	-1	FS			Redeployed to the Central Maintenance and Repair Unit
	-22	NGS			Redeployed to the Central Maintenance and Repair Unit
	-1	NGS			Redeployed to the Delivery and Return Section
	-2	NGS			Reassigned to the Delivery and Return Section
	-1	NGS			Redeployed to the Office of the Chief, Supply Chain Service
	-3	NGS			Reassigned to the Office of the Chief, Supply Chain Service
	-1	NGS			Redeployed to the Planning Support Unit
	-2	NGS			Redeployed to the Planning Support Unit
Subtotal	**-87**				
Engineering Standards and Design Centre	-1	P-4			Redeployed to the Sourcing Support Unit
	-5	P-3			
	-7	NGS			
	-2	GTA FS			

Office Section Unit	Within the Global Service Centre		New to the Global Service Centre		Description
	No.	Level	No.	Level	
	-1	P-4			Redeployed to the Environmental Technical Support Unit
	-1	P-3			
	-1	NGS			
Subtotal	**-18**				
Strategic Air Operations Centre	-1	P-4			Redeployed to the tenant units
	-3	P-3			
	-3	FS			
	-3	NGS			
Subtotal	**-10**				
Planning Support Unit	+3	P-3			Redeployed from the Asset and Resource Management Section
	+8	NGS			
	+1	NGS			Redeployed from the Supply Chain Management Section
	+2	NGS			Reassigned from the Supply Chain Management Section
	+1	NGS			Redeployed from the Office of the Chief, Supply Chain Service
Subtotal	**+15**				
Sourcing Support Unit	+1	P-4			From the Engineering Standards and Design Centre
	+5	P-3			
	+7	NGS			
	+2	GTA FS			
	+1	P-4			From the Office of the Director
	+1	P-3			
	+1	NGS			From the Field Contracts Management Unit
Subtotal	**+18**				
Environmental Technical Support Unit	+1	P-4			Redeployed from the Engineering Standards and Design Centre
	+1	P-3			
	+1	NGS			
Subtotal	**+3**				
			+2	P-3	New post
			+2	NGS	New post
Subtotal			**+4**		

Office/Section/Unit	Within the Global Service Centre No.	Level	Sent to the Global Service Centre No.	Level	Description
Delivery and Return Section	+1	P-5			Redeployed from the Office of the Chief, Supply Chain Service
Customer Service Unit					
	+1	P-4			Redeployed from the Office of the Chief, Supply Chain Service
	+1	NGS			
	+3	NGS			Redeployed/reassigned from the Supply Chain Management Section
Logistics Support Unit					
	+2	FS			Redeployed from the Office of the Chief, Supply Chain Service
	+2	NGS			
	+1	NGS			Redeployed from the Asset and Resource Management Section
Strategic Deployment Stocks Unit					
	+1	P-4			Redeployed from the Asset and Resource Management Section
	+1	P-3			
	+2	NGS			
Subtotal	**+15**				
Central Warehousing Unit	**+1**	P-4			From the Supply Chain Management Section
	+2	P-3			
	+50	NGS			
Subtotal	**+53**				
Central Maintenance and Repair Unit	+1	P-4			From the Supply Chain Management Section
	+1	FS			
	+22	NGS			
Subtotal	**+24**				
Subtotal	**+14**		**-4**		
Service for Geospatial, Information and Telecommunications Technologies					
Office of the Chief	+5	NGS			Redeployed from the Central Service (currently Base Support Service)
Subtotal	**+5**				
Geospatial Information System Section	-1	FS			Conversion of general temporary assistance to post
	-5	NGS			
	+1	FS			
	+5	NGS			
Subtotal	—				
Remote Mission Support Section	-2	P-4			Conversion of general temporary assistance to post
	-1	P-3			
	-5	FS			
	-12	NGS			

Office/Section/Unit	Within the Global Service Centre		New to the Global Service Centre		Description
	No.	Level	No.	Level	
	+2	P-4			
	+1	P-3			
	+5	FS			
	+12	NGS			
Subtotal	–				
Subtotal	**5**		–		
Tenant units					
Standing Police Capacity	—	P-4			Reassigned within the unit
Justice and Corrections Standing Capacity			+1	P-4	New post
Strategic Air Operations Centre	+1	P-4			Redeployed from the Logistics Service
	+3	P-3			
	+3	FS			
	+3	NGS			
Subtotal	**+10**				
Subtotal	**+10**		**+1**		
Total	**-1**		**+5**		
Total international posts	+12				
Total national posts	+18				
General temporary assistance					
International positions	-9				
National positions	-17				

Abbreviations: FS, Field Service; GTA, general temporary assistance; NGS, national General Service.